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Assembly  
California Legislature  
**Committee on Rules**

KEN COOLEY  
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VICE CHAIR  
CUNNINGHAM, JORDAN

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QUIRK-SILVA, SHARON  
RAMOS, JAMES C.  
RIVAS, ROBERT  
WICKS, BUFFY

DIEP, TYLER (R-ALT)  
LEVINE, MARC (D-ALT)

Thursday, July 11, 2019  
10 minutes prior to Session  
State Capitol, Room 3162

CONSENT AGENDA

**BILL REFERRALS**

1. Bill Referrals

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**RESOLUTIONS**

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|--------------------|---|-------------------------|
| 2. ACR-22 (Fong)   | Valley Fever Awareness Month.                     | <a href="#">Page 4</a>  |
| 3. ACR-113 (Kalra) | India's Independence Day.                         | <a href="#">Page 9</a>  |
| 4. HR-8 (Voepel)   | German American Heritage Day and Month.           | <a href="#">Page 13</a> |
| 5. HR-48 (Quirk)   | American Muslim Appreciation and Awareness Month. | <a href="#">Page 17</a> |
| 6. HR-49 (Kalra)   | Diwali. (refer/hear)                              | <a href="#">Page 22</a> |



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CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER  
DEBRA GRAVERT

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SHARON QUIRK-SILVA  
JAMES C. RAMOS  
ROBERT RIVAS  
BUFFY WICKS

MARC LEVINE (D-ALT.)  
TYLER DIEP (R-ALT.)

# Memo

**To:** Rules Committee Members  
**From:** Michael Erke, Bill Referral Consultant  
**Date:** 7/10/19  
**Re:** Consent Bill Referrals

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Since you received your preliminary list of bill referrals, ACR 110 and ACR 116 have been added to the list of referrals.

## REFERRAL OF BILLS TO COMMITTEE

07/11/2019

Pursuant to the Assembly Rules, the following bills were referred to committee:

Assembly Bill No.	Committee:
<u>ACR 110</u>	JUD.
<u>ACR 115</u>	B. & F.
<u>ACR 116</u>	RLS.
<u>AJR 22</u>	JUD.
<u>HR 49</u>	RLS.

## Assembly Concurrent Resolution

**No. 22**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Fong**

February 5, 2019

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Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 22—Relative to Valley Fever Awareness Month.

### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

ACR 22, as introduced, Fong. Valley Fever Awareness Month.

This measure would declare August 2019 as Valley Fever Awareness Month.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, Valley Fever (coccidioidomycosis), a progressive,  
2 multisymptom, respiratory disorder, is a debilitating disease; and

3 WHEREAS, Valley Fever is caused by the inhalation of tiny  
4 airborne fungi that live in the soil but are released into the air by  
5 soil disturbance or wind; and

6 WHEREAS, Valley Fever attacks the respiratory system, causing  
7 infections that can lead to symptoms that resemble a cold,  
8 influenza, or pneumonia; and

9 WHEREAS, If left untreated or mistreated, infection can spread  
10 from the lungs into the bloodstream, causing inflammation to the  
11 skin, permanent damage to lung and bone tissue, and swelling of  
12 the membrane surrounding the brain, leading to meningitis, which  
13 can be devastating and even fatal; and

14 WHEREAS, Once serious symptoms of Valley Fever appear,  
15 including pneumonia and labored breathing, prompt treatment with  
16 often toxic antifungal drugs must be given, which is especially

1 disagreeable for patients who require the drugs to be injected  
2 beneath the base of their skulls for meningitis and which can cause  
3 side effects, including nausea, fever, and kidney damage; and

4 WHEREAS, Within California alone, Valley Fever is found in  
5 portions of the Sacramento Valley, all of the San Joaquin Valley,  
6 desert regions, and portions of southern California; and

7 WHEREAS, California does not have an official statewide  
8 method of tracking the rate of Valley Fever infections; and

9 WHEREAS, According to the federal Centers for Disease  
10 Control and Prevention (CDC), Valley Fever infection rates rose  
11 twelvefold nationwide from 1995 to 2009, and researchers estimate  
12 that the fungus infects more than 150,000 people each year who  
13 either suffer serious ailments without knowing the cause of their  
14 illness or escape detection of the disease; and

15 WHEREAS, According to the CDC, between 1999 and 2011,  
16 the rate of infection of Valley Fever in California rose more than  
17 600 percent, from 939 cases in 1999 to 5,697 cases in 2011, before  
18 declining to 2,243 cases in 2014, but increasing again to 3,053  
19 cases in 2015; and

20 WHEREAS, In Kern County, the rate of infection of Valley  
21 Fever more than tripled from 2009, for a total of 2,051 cases in  
22 2010 and 2,734 cases in 2011, before declining to 1210 cases in  
23 2014 and spiking again to nearly 2,500 cases in 2016; and

24 WHEREAS, Although the rate of Valley Fever infection in  
25 California had declined since 2011, it continues to infect  
26 Californians at more than twice the rate of infection in 1999 and  
27 shows signs of increasing infection rates again; and

28 WHEREAS, According to the State Department of Public  
29 Health, from January 1 to October 31, 2017, inclusive, 5,121  
30 provisional cases of Valley Fever were reported in California. This  
31 is an increase of 1,294 provisional cases from the provisional 3,827  
32 cases reported during that same time period in 2016; and

33 WHEREAS, Misdiagnosis of Valley Fever is so pervasive that  
34 experts say some people suffer and even die from Valley Fever  
35 without knowing they ever had the disease; and

36 WHEREAS, The Governor declared a Drought State of  
37 Emergency on January 17, 2014, and California continues to  
38 experience record dry conditions; and

39 WHEREAS, Dry conditions and lack of precipitation present  
40 urgent problems regarding Valley Fever; and

1 WHEREAS, Valley Fever is usually found in soil two to eight  
2 inches from the surface, and the extreme dry conditions caused by  
3 drought increase the chances of coccidioidomycosis airborne fungi  
4 exposure; and

5 WHEREAS, Central Valley prison inmates have been infected  
6 by Valley Fever at epidemic rates, contributing significantly to the  
7 state's prison healthcare costs; and

8 WHEREAS, The rapid spread of Valley Fever at state prisons  
9 in the Central Valley has resulted in multiple prison inmate deaths  
10 and prompted calls to close certain affected prisons, further  
11 exacerbating efforts to comply with federal orders to reduce prison  
12 overcrowding; and

13 WHEREAS, Valley Fever kills between 100 to 200 more  
14 Americans every year than tuberculosis; and

15 WHEREAS, Valley Fever most seriously affects the young, the  
16 elderly, those with lowered immune systems, and those of African  
17 American and Filipino descent; and

18 WHEREAS, Valley Fever is a disease that has been studied for  
19 the past 100 years but still remains impossible to control and  
20 difficult to treat; and

21 WHEREAS, There is no known cure for Valley Fever, but  
22 researchers are closer than ever to finding a much-needed vaccine  
23 against this devastating disease; and

24 WHEREAS, The research effort to find a vaccine for Valley  
25 Fever and a funding partnership including the State of California  
26 were approved by the Legislature and signed by Governor Wilson  
27 in 1997; now, therefore, be it

28 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*  
29 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature does hereby proclaim  
30 August 2019 as Valley Fever Awareness Month; and be it further

31 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies  
32 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

O

Date of Hearing: July 11, 2019

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON RULES  
Ken Cooley, Chair  
ACR 22 (Fong) – As Introduced February 5, 2019

**SUBJECT:** Valley Fever Awareness Month.

**SUMMARY:** Declares August 2019 as Valley Fever Awareness Month. Specifically, **this resolution** makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) Valley Fever (coccidioidomycosis), a progressive, multisymptom, respiratory disorder, is a debilitating disease caused by the inhalation of tiny airborne fungi that live in the soil but are released into the air by soil disturbance or wind.
- 2) Valley Fever attacks the respiratory system, causing infections that can lead to symptoms that resemble a cold, influenza, or pneumonia. If left untreated, or mistreated, infections can spread from the lungs into the bloodstream, causing inflammation to the skin, permanent damage to lung and bone tissue, and swelling of the membrane surrounding the brain, leading to meningitis, which can be devastating and even fatal.
- 3) Once serious symptoms of Valley Fever appear, including pneumonia and labored breathing, prompt treatment with often toxic antifungal drugs must be given, which is especially disagreeable for patients who require the drugs to be injected beneath the base of their skulls for meningitis and which can cause side effects such as nausea, fever, and kidney damage.
- 4) According to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Valley Fever infection rates rose twelvefold nationwide from 1995 to 2009, and researchers estimate that the fungus infects more than 150,000 people each year who either suffer serious ailments without knowing the cause of their illness or escape detection of the disease.
- 5) According to the State Department of Public Health, from January 1 to October 31, 2017, inclusive, 5,121 provisional cases of Valley Fever were reported in California. This is an increase of 1,294 provisional cases from the provisional 3,827 cases reported during that same time period in 2016.
- 6) Misdiagnosis of Valley Fever is so pervasive that experts say some people suffer and even die from Valley Fever without knowing they ever had the disease.
- 7) Valley Fever is usually found in soil two to eight inches from the surface, and the extreme dry conditions caused by drought increase the chances of coccidioidomycosis airborne fungi exposure.
- 8) There is no known cure for Valley Fever, but researchers are closer than ever to finding a much-needed vaccine against this devastating disease.

**FISCAL EFFECT:** None

**REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:**

**Support**

None on file

**Opposition**

None on file

**Analysis Prepared by:** Nicole Willis / RLS. / (916) 319-2800

**Assembly Concurrent Resolution**

**No. 113**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Kalra**  
**(Principal coauthors: Assembly Members Aguiar-Curry,**  
**Bauer-Kahan, Cooper, Cristina Garcia, and Mark Stone)**  
(Principal coauthors: Senators Archuleta, Beall, and Wieckowski)

July 3, 2019

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Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 113—Relative to India's Independence Day.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 113, as introduced, Kalra. India's Independence Day.

This measure would recognize August 15, 2019, as India's Independence Day, and urge all Californians to join in celebrating India's independence.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, As the day began on August 15, 1947, at the stroke  
2 of midnight, the first Prime Minister of India, Jawaharlal Nehru,  
3 gave his famous Tryst with Destiny speech proclaiming India's  
4 independence; and  
5 WHEREAS, The Tryst with Destiny speech captured the essence  
6 of the nonviolent Indian freedom struggle against British colonial  
7 rule in India; and  
8 WHEREAS, India's Independence Day is one of the most  
9 important national holidays in India. The biggest event of the day  
10 takes place in Delhi where the Prime Minister hoists the national  
11 flag at the Red Fort, delivers a nationally televised speech that  
12 highlights the achievements of the government, discusses current

1 issues and future plans for progress, and pays tribute to the leaders  
2 of India's struggle for freedom; and

3 WHEREAS, India's Independence Day is celebrated on August  
4 15 of each year to commemorate its independence. It was  
5 celebrated by 400 million Indians in 1947 and today is celebrated  
6 by over a billion people living in India, and many people living in  
7 other parts of the world, including California, which is home to  
8 the largest population of Asian Indians in the United States; and

9 WHEREAS, The local community of people in California who  
10 hail from India, or with ancestral ties to India, continually  
11 demonstrate the greatness and beauty of their homeland, and their  
12 contributions are notable and reflect success in many industries  
13 and community activism; and

14 WHEREAS, Ever since August 15, 1947, India's nonviolent  
15 struggle for freedom, its rejection of terrorism and extremism, and  
16 its belief in democracy, tolerance, and the rule of law have been  
17 an inspiration and beacon of hope for people around the world;  
18 and

19 WHEREAS, India's example has had a profound effect on many  
20 countries, including the United States. Leaders of our civil rights  
21 movement, including Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., spoke about the  
22 debt they owed to Mahatma Gandhi. Ties between our two peoples  
23 have never been stronger. The over three million members of the  
24 Indian American community are living examples of the bonds that  
25 bind our nations together and their accomplishments have become  
26 well-known and admired in both countries; and

27 WHEREAS, India is the world's largest democracy by  
28 population with roughly 1.3 billion people, more than 800 million  
29 of whom are eligible to vote; now, therefore, be it

30 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*  
31 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature hereby recognizes August  
32 15, 2019, as India's Independence Day, and urges all Californians  
33 to join in celebrating India's independence; and be it further

34 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies  
35 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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Date of Hearing: July 11, 2019

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON RULES  
Ken Cooley, Chair  
ACR 113 (Kalra) – As Introduced July 3, 2019

**SUBJECT:** India's Independence Day.

**SUMMARY:** Recognizes August 15, 2019, as India's Independence Day and urges all Californians to join in celebrating India's independence. Specifically, **this resolution** makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) As the day began on August 15, 1947, at the stroke of midnight, the first Prime Minister of India, Jawaharlal Nehru, gave his famous Tryst with Destiny speech proclaiming India's independence; and, the Tryst with Destiny speech captured the essence of the nonviolent Indian freedom struggle against British colonial rule in India.
- 2) India's Independence Day is one of the most important national holidays in India. The biggest event of the day takes place in Delhi where the Prime Minister hoists the national flag at the Red Fort, delivers a nationally televised speech that highlights the achievements of the government, discusses current issues and future plans for progress, and pays tribute to the leaders of India's struggle for freedom.
- 3) India's Independence Day is celebrated on August 15 of each year to commemorate its independence. It was celebrated by 400 million Indians in 1947 and today is celebrated by over a billion people living in India, and many people living in other parts of the world, including California, which is home to the largest population of Asian Indians in the United States.
- 4) The local community of people in California who hail from India, or with ancestral ties to India, continually demonstrate the greatness and beauty of their homeland, and their contributions are notable and reflect success in many industries and community activism.
- 5) Since August 15, 1947, India's nonviolent struggle for freedom, its rejection of terrorism and extremism, and its belief in democracy, tolerance, and the rule of law have been an inspiration and beacon of hope for people around the world.
- 6) India's example has had a profound effect on many countries, including the United States. Leaders of our civil rights movement, including Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., spoke about the debt they owed to Mahatma Gandhi. Ties between our two peoples have never been stronger. The over three million members of the Indian American community are living examples of the bonds that bind our nations together and their accomplishments have become well-known and admired in both countries.

**FISCAL EFFECT:** None

**REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:**

**Support**

None on file

**Opposition**

None on file

**Analysis Prepared by:** Nicole Willis / RLS. / (916) 319-2800

## House Resolution

**No. 8**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Voepel**

January 18, 2019

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House Resolution No. 8—Relative to German American Heritage Day and Month.

1 WHEREAS, Early German American immigrants settled in the  
2 Americas during the early years of Jamestown in Virginia; and  
3 WHEREAS, On October 6, 1683, the first American German  
4 town was founded in Pennsylvania and named Germantown; and  
5 WHEREAS, Like many immigrant groups in the United States,  
6 German Americans came to the United States to seek opportunities  
7 that they were deprived of back home. America promised  
8 opportunity for farm ownership, escape from religious persecution,  
9 and more economic mobility to help raise their families; and  
10 WHEREAS, German Americans contributed to the development  
11 of the United States in many ways, including in science with Neil  
12 Armstrong being the first person to set foot on the moon; in  
13 entertainment with Walt Disney bringing magic into people's lives  
14 through Disney World, Disneyland, and many treasured films that  
15 keep smiles on every child's face; and in industry with William  
16 Edward Boeing being an aviation pioneer of The Boeing Company;  
17 and  
18 WHEREAS, Many people of German American descent have  
19 contributed in different areas of American life from the sciences  
20 to literature, from the economy to entrepreneurship, and from  
21 technological advancement to the design of the United States  
22 Capitol dome by August G. Schoenborn; and

1 WHEREAS, German Americans have also played a major role  
2 in California politics as governors, legislative leaders, city mayors,  
3 and other public officials who have worked tirelessly to build  
4 California into the state that it is today; and

5 WHEREAS, German Americans were significantly involved in  
6 the development of infrastructure and technology throughout the  
7 United States, especially in California. This includes notable  
8 German Americans such as Bill Gates and Steve Jobs who  
9 developed revolutionary technologies that move commerce, build  
10 human connections across the globe, and built independence across  
11 continents; and

12 WHEREAS, Many German American authors like John  
13 Steinbeck and Dr. Seuss, celebrities and humorists like Jimmy  
14 Kimmel and David Letterman, and composers like Hans Zimmer  
15 who changed the film industry, have contributed greatly to the  
16 United States in art, entertainment, and literature; and

17 WHEREAS, Today, over 42.8 million Americans across the  
18 United States and over 6 million in the State of California claim  
19 German heritage, and they continue to contribute to American and  
20 Californian politics, economy, and culture; now, therefore, be it

21 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California*, That in  
22 honor of the multitude of contributions that German Americans  
23 have made to make this a better country and state for all people,  
24 the Assembly declares the month of October 2019 as German  
25 American Heritage Month and October 6, 2019, as German  
26 American Heritage Day in California, and the Assembly calls upon  
27 the people of the state to observe the month of October with  
28 appropriate ceremonies, programs, and activities; and be it further

29 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies  
30 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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Date of Hearing: July 11, 2019

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON RULES  
Ken Cooley, Chair  
HR 8 (Voepel) – As Introduced January 18, 2019

**SUBJECT:** German American Heritage Day and Month.

**SUMMARY:** Declares the month of October 2019 as German American Heritage Month and October 6, 2019, as German American Heritage Day in California, and calls upon the people of the state to observe the month of October with appropriate ceremonies, programs, and activities. Specifically, **this resolution** makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) Early German American immigrants settled in the Americas during the early years of Jamestown in Virginia; and, like many immigrant groups in the United States, German Americans came to the United States to seek opportunities that they were deprived of back home. America promised opportunity for farm ownership, escape from religious persecution, and more economic mobility to help raise their families.
- 2) On October 6, 1683, the first American German town was founded in Pennsylvania and named Germantown.
- 3) German Americans contributed to the development of the United States in many ways, including in science with Neil Armstrong being the first person to set foot on the moon; in entertainment with Walt Disney bringing magic into people's lives through Disney World, Disneyland, and many treasured films that keep smiles on every child's face; and in industry with William Edward Boeing being an aviation pioneer of The Boeing Company.
- 4) Many people of German American descent have contributed in different areas of American life from the sciences to literature, from the economy to entrepreneurship, and from technological advancement to the design of the United States Capitol dome by August G. Schoenborn.
- 5) Germans Americans have also played a major role in California politics as governors, legislative leaders, city mayors, and other public officials who have worked tirelessly to build California into the state that it is today.
- 6) Today, over 42.8 million Americans across the United States and over 6 million in the State of California claim German heritage, and they continue to contribute to American and Californian politics, economy, and culture.

**FISCAL EFFECT:** None

**REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:**

**Support**

None on file

**Opposition**

None on file

**Analysis Prepared by:** Nicole Willis / RLS. / (916) 319-2800

## House Resolution

**No. 48**

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**Introduced by Assembly Members Quirk, Chu, and Kalra**

July 1, 2019

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House Resolution No. 48—Relative to American Muslim Appreciation and Awareness Month.

1 WHEREAS, Freedom of religion holds the distinction of being  
2 a cherished right and a fundamental value upon which the law and  
3 ethics of the United States are based; and

4 WHEREAS, Civil rights groups report that there continues to  
5 be an increase in the vandalism at mosques, intimidation, bullying,  
6 and hate speech targeted at American Muslims, including the  
7 March burning of a mosque in Escondido, California; and

8 WHEREAS, Enriched by the unparalleled diversity of its  
9 residents, the State of California takes great pride in supporting  
10 individual religious freedoms and is strengthened by the diverse  
11 religious, political, and cultural traditions of its residents, including  
12 Americans who practice Islam; and

13 WHEREAS, Approximately one million American Muslims  
14 currently reside in California, the highest number of any state in  
15 the United States; and

16 WHEREAS, The American Muslim community is recognized  
17 as having made innumerable contributions to the cultural, political,  
18 and economic fabric and well-being of California and the United  
19 States; and

20 WHEREAS, American Muslims have long served in the nation's  
21 Armed Forces and fought in all major United States wars, from  
22 the American Revolutionary War to modern conflicts today, with

1 some American Muslims making the ultimate sacrifice in combat;  
2 and

3 WHEREAS, The first all-women mosque was opened in Los  
4 Angeles, California in 2015, creating a safe space for American  
5 Muslim women to become empowered and create a network of  
6 resources to allow for shared growth and respect among different  
7 communities; and

8 WHEREAS, Zaytuna College, located in Berkeley, California,  
9 is the first accredited Muslim undergraduate college in the United  
10 States; and

11 WHEREAS, The University Muslim Medical Association  
12 (UMMA) Community Clinic is the first American Muslim founded  
13 community-based health organization in the United States; and

14 WHEREAS, The Council on American-Islamic Relations is  
15 America's largest civil liberties group whose mission is to enhance  
16 understanding of Islam, protect civil rights, promote justice, and  
17 empower American Muslims, and in 2019, its national organization  
18 and California chapter celebrate their 25th anniversary; and

19 WHEREAS, California is home to several prominent Muslim  
20 figures who continue to make significant contributions to the State  
21 of California and the United States as business owners, legal  
22 professionals, doctors, engineers, teachers, farmers, and in many  
23 other great, notable capacities; and

24 WHEREAS, Dr. Shamim Ibrahim, a Muslim psychologist and  
25 counselor with the Los Angeles Unified School District, founded  
26 Niswa Association, Inc. in 1990, a nonprofit, community-based,  
27 social service organization based in Harbor City, California, that  
28 works toward the well-being of South Asian, Afghan, and Middle  
29 Eastern immigrant women; and

30 WHEREAS, The late Moustapha Akkad, producer of the famous  
31 Hollywood horror movie series "Halloween," "The Message," and  
32 "The Lion of the Desert," was a Syrian American immigrant to  
33 California, and a student at both the University of California, Los  
34 Angeles and the University of Southern California; and

35 WHEREAS, Ahmed Zewail was awarded the Nobel Prize in  
36 Chemistry in 1999 and was a professor of chemistry and physics  
37 at the California Institute of Technology; and

38 WHEREAS, Dr. Ayub Khan Ommaya invented the Ommaya  
39 reservoir that is used to provide chemotherapy directly to the tumor

1 site for brain tumors and was also the leading expert in traumatic  
2 brain injuries; and

3 WHEREAS, Nagi Daifallah played an important role for the  
4 United Farm Workers (UFW) in the 1970s by serving as a  
5 translator and was killed during a nonviolent protest and is  
6 remembered by the UFW as a martyr; and

7 WHEREAS, Ibtihaj Muhammad, a saber fencer, became the  
8 first female American Muslim athlete to earn a medal at the  
9 Olympic Games in 2016 and was also the first fencer to wear a  
10 hijab; and

11 WHEREAS, Halim Dhanidina was the first American Muslim  
12 to be appointed as a judge in California with his appointment to  
13 the Los Angeles County Superior Court in 2012, and in 2018, his  
14 appointment to the Second District Court of Appeal would make  
15 him the first American Muslim justice in the history of the  
16 California Courts of Appeal; and

17 WHEREAS, University of California, Berkeley student Sadia  
18 Saifuddin was appointed as the first American Muslim student  
19 regent to the Board of Regents of the University of California in  
20 2014; and

21 WHEREAS, Mahershala Ali, born in Oakland and raised in  
22 Hayward, California, became the first American Muslim actor to  
23 win an Academy Award for his performance in the film  
24 “Moonlight” in 2017; and

25 WHEREAS, Aziz Akbari became the youngest American  
26 Muslim to be elected into office in the United States when he won  
27 a seat on the Board of Directors of the Alameda County Water  
28 District; and

29 WHEREAS, Mokhtar Alkhanshali is the founder of Port of  
30 Mokha and protagonist of Dave Egger’s book “The Monk of  
31 Mokha,” highlighting his journey as a social entrepreneur and his  
32 harrowing escape from war-torn Yemen, and is credited with the  
33 Yemeni coffee market’s reemergence and notoriety; and

34 WHEREAS, It is appropriate to acknowledge and promote  
35 awareness of the myriad invaluable contributions of American  
36 Muslims in California and across the country, and extend to them  
37 the respect and camaraderie every American deserves; now,  
38 therefore, be it

39 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, That the*  
40 *Assembly joins communities throughout the State of California*

- 1 in recognizing the month of August 2019 as American Muslim
- 2 Appreciation and Awareness Month; and be it further
- 3 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
- 4 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

O

Date of Hearing: July 11, 2019

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON RULES  
Ken Cooley, Chair  
HR 48 (Quirk) – As Introduced July 1, 2019

**SUBJECT:** American Muslim Appreciation and Awareness Month.

**SUMMARY:** Recognizes the month of August 2019 as American Muslim Appreciation and Awareness Month. Specifically, **this resolution** makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) Freedom of religion holds the distinction of being a cherished right and a fundamental value upon which the law and ethics of the United States are based. The State of California takes great pride in supporting individual religious freedoms and is strengthened by the diverse religious, political, and cultural traditions of its residents, including Americans who practice Islam.
- 2) Approximately one million American Muslims currently reside in California, the highest number of any state in the United States. The American Muslim community is recognized as having made innumerable contributions to the cultural, political, and economic fabric and well-being of California and the United States.
- 3) California is home to several prominent Muslim figures who continue to make significant contributions to the State of California and the United States as business owners, legal professionals, doctors, engineers, teachers, farmers, and in many other great, notable capacities.
- 4) Civil rights groups report that there continues to be an increase in the vandalism at mosques, intimidation, bullying, and hate speech targeted at American Muslims.
- 5) It is appropriate to acknowledge and promote awareness of the myriad invaluable contributions of American Muslims in California and across the country, and extend to them the respect and camaraderie every American deserves.

**FISCAL EFFECT:** None

**REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:**

**Support**

None on file

**Opposition**

None on file

**Analysis Prepared by:** Nicole Willis / RLS. / (916) 319-2800

## House Resolution

No. 49

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**Introduced by Assembly Members Kalra and Cristina Garcia  
(Principal coauthors: Assembly Members Bauer-Kahan, Chu,  
Cooper, Quirk, and Reyes)**

July 8, 2019

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House Resolution No. 49—Relative to Diwali.

1 WHEREAS, Diwali, a festival of great significance to Indian  
2 Americans and South Asian Americans, is celebrated annually by  
3 Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, and Jains throughout the United States,  
4 and across the globe; and

5 WHEREAS, There are approximately 3,230,000 Hindus in the  
6 United States, nearly 2,000,000 of which are of Indian and South  
7 Asian origin; and

8 WHEREAS, The word “Diwali” is a shortened version of the  
9 Sanskrit term “Deepavali,” which means “a row of lamps”; and

10 WHEREAS, Diwali, one of the world’s oldest religious holidays,  
11 brings together families, friends, and communities here in  
12 California, the United States, and around the globe in goodwill,  
13 peace, and a shared sense of renewal; and

14 WHEREAS, Diwali is a festival of lights during which  
15 celebrants light small oil lamps, place them around the home, and  
16 pray for health, knowledge, and peace; and

17 WHEREAS, Hindu celebrants of Diwali believe that the rows  
18 of lamps symbolize the light of knowledge and truth within the  
19 individual that signifies the destruction of all negative  
20 qualities—violence, anger, jealousy, ignorance, greed, fear, or  
21 suffering; in other words, Diwali celebrates the victory of good  
22 over evil; and

1 WHEREAS, Diwali falls on Sunday, October 27 this year in  
2 accordance with the lunar calendar and is celebrated by Hindus as  
3 a day of thanksgiving for the homecoming of Lord Rama and the  
4 beginning of the new year for many Hindus; and

5 WHEREAS, For Sikhs, Diwali is feted as the day that the sixth  
6 founding Sikh Guru, or revered teacher, Guru Hargobind, was  
7 released from captivity by the Mughal Emperor Jahangir; and

8 WHEREAS, For Jains, Diwali marks the anniversary of the  
9 attainment of moksha, or liberation, by Mahavira, the last of the  
10 Tirthankaras (the great teachers of Jain dharma), at the end of his  
11 life in 527 B.C.; and

12 WHEREAS, For Buddhists, especially Newar Buddhists, Diwali  
13 is commemorated as Ashok Vijayadashami, the day the great  
14 Emperor Ashoka embraced Buddhism as his faith; now, therefore,  
15 be it

16 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California*, That the  
17 Assembly recognizes this year's Diwali festival on Sunday,  
18 October 27, 2019, and encourages Californians to take part in this  
19 joyous day of celebration; and be it further

20 *Resolved*, That the Assembly recognizes the religious and  
21 historical significance of the festival of Diwali and in observance  
22 of Diwali, the festival of lights, expresses its deepest respect for  
23 Indian Americans and the Indian diaspora throughout the world  
24 on this significant occasion; and be it further

25 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies  
26 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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Date of Hearing: July 11, 2019

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON RULES  
Ken Cooley, Chair  
HR 49 (Kalra) – As Introduced July 8, 2019

**SUBJECT:** Diwali.

**SUMMARY:** Recognizes this year’s Diwali festival on Sunday, October 27, 2019, and encourages Californians to take part in the joyous day of celebration. Specifically, **this resolution** makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) Diwali falls on Sunday, October 27 this year in accordance with the lunar calendar, and is the beginning of the new year for many Hindus.
- 2) Diwali, a festival of great significance to Indian Americans and South Asian Americans, is celebrated annually by Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, and Jains throughout the United States, and across the globe. The word “Diwali” is a shortened version of the Sanskrit term “Deepavali,” which means “a row of lamps”.
- 3) There are approximately 3,230,000 Hindus in the United States, nearly 2,000,000 of which are of Indian and South Asian origin.
- 4) Diwali, one of the world’s oldest religious holidays, brings together families, friends, and communities here in California, the United States, and around the globe in goodwill, peace, and a shared sense of renewal.
- 5) Diwali is a festival of lights during which celebrants light small oil lamps, place them around the home, and pray for health, knowledge, and peace.
- 6) Hindu celebrants of Diwali believe that the rows of lamps symbolize the light of knowledge and truth within the individual that signifies the destruction of all negative qualities—violence, anger, jealousy, ignorance, greed, fear, or suffering; in other words, Diwali celebrates the victory of good over evil.

**FISCAL EFFECT:** None

**REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:**

**Support**

None on file

**Opposition**

None on file

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